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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-010

The AMSAT News Service bulletins are a free, weekly news and information service of AMSAT, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS publishes news related to Amateur Radio in Space including reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

The news feed on http://www.amsat.org publishes news of Amateur Radio in Space as soon as our volunteers can post it.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to: ans-editor(a)amsat.org

You can sign up for free e-mail delivery of the AMSAT News Service Bulletins via the ANS List; to join this list see:
https://mailman.amsat.org/postorius/lists/ans.amsat.org/

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ANS-010 AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 010.01
>From AMSAT HQ WASHINGTON, DC
DATE YYY
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-010.01

Virgin Orbit's LauncherOne is go for launch with RadFXSat-2/Fox-1E cubesat

LauncherOne is scheduled for launch on Sunday, January 10th at 13:00 EST.
The LauncherOne vehicle will carry 11 satellites including the AMSAT/Vanderbilt RadFXSat-2 cubesat.
RadFxSat-2 / Fox-1E Frequencies:
Telemetry Downlink – 435.750 MHz
Inverting Linear Transponder Uplink – 145.860 MHz – 145.890 MHz
Inverting Linear Transponder Downlink – 435.760 MHz – 435.790 MHz

See https://bit.ly/2XboF8H and https://bit.ly/3hLlDl3 for more information

[ANS thanks Mark Johns, K0JM AMSAT News Editor, the AMSAT-UK editorial team, and SpaceLaunchNow for the above information]

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quarantine for almost 2 weeks. On 20 December 2020, the Polarstern then set sail from Bremerhaven and embarked on the long voyage to Antarctica, non-stop.

In agreement with the responsible board engineer of Polarstern, Jörg DJ0HO, who is responsible for the callsign DP0POL on Polarstern, the station could be set up in front of a container on the upper deck, depending on the weather situation (see cover picture). Theresa DC1TH and Felix DL5XL are thus able to make radio calls in their spare time during the several-week trip to Antarctica. After the premiere there was an impressive “pile-up” of up to 40 kHz on the NB transponder on the following days.

Additional information may be found at: https://bit.ly/3bjx1Um

[ANS thanks Peter Gülzow, DB2OS, President AMSAT-DL for the above information]

AMSAT-SM releases a satellite memory set for the ICOM IC-705

Lars Thunberg, Webmaster for AMSAT-SM has posted a satellite memory set for the new IC-705 QRP radio from ICOM. Lars has provided two .CSV files which may be merged into your existing memory groups as a dedicated group. You will need to use the CS-705 software from ICOM to perform the merge. Please carefully read the instructions that Lars gives at:
https://bit.ly/3obNm0R
The .CSV files in the EU/Swedish format and the North American/US format are posted at the above URL.
Note from Jack Spitznagel, KD4IZ. "I found the CS-705 format difficult to import into the RT Systems IC-705 Programmer. The easiest path would be to use Icom's CS-705 software to merge the memories into a new group, then to save the settings back into the RT Systems Programmer software. I have provided an import template for the RT Systems software to Lars. It will require some testing by others. Please contact me with your results or questions (kd4iz at arrl dot org). Lars has posted this file at the above link.
Lars also has also provided a nice tutorial for users of the PstRotator Satellites Tracking Sofware at:
https://bit.ly/2LewbNt
Lars plans to update his memory settings file to add additional satellites in the future.
[ANS thanks Lars Thunberg, SM0TGU, Webmaster AMSAT-SM and Jack Spitznagel, Editor AMSAT News for the above information]

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Clint wishes to add some additional presentations to his schedule and he adds: "There are up-to-five spots available for you to attend! Just send me an email message (email address below) for details. Would a 90-minute informative, personalized-to-your-club, FUN presentation on working the “easy” satellites would be appropriate for your club? Send me an email message, and let’s book a date!"

[ANS thanks Clint Bradford, K6LCS (k6lcs at ham-satdot info) for the above information]

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availability and flexibility match up with the scheduling opportunities
offered by NASA.

The following have been listed by Organization and Location:
Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN
Tarwater Elementary, Chandler, AZ
Museum of Science & Technology, Syracuse , NY
SpaceKids Global and Girl Scouts of Citrus, Winter Park, FL
Civil Air Patrol – Illinois Wing, St Charles, IL
Children's National Hospital, Washington, DC
Savannah River Academy, Grovetown, GA

[ANS thanks Charlie Sufana, AJ9N and Dave Jordan, AA4KN of ARISS for the
above information]

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Satellite Shorts From All Over

+ Reminders from Drew Glasbrenner about AO-92 and AO-91 - AMSAT-BB 1/6/2021:
"Today I turned AO-92's transmitter off after resetting the min-max readings. We've been watching the battery minimum voltage decline steadily over the last few days, and needed to give it a rest for a bit. Immediately afterwards, there was an AO-91 pass. I turned on the transmitter, and a few moments later reset the min-max readings. The command team will monitor telemetry and determine if we can leave it on for a while. Please remember to not transmit to either satellite while it is in eclipse. If you do not use software that indicates eclipse state, just avoid the evening passes. We are in the endgame for both satellites, and your cooperation will give us more operational time over the coming months."

(ANS thanks Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, AMSAT VP Operations for the above information)

+ Alba Orbital, the space broker that manages the launch of AMSAT-EA (AMSAT Spain) EASAT-2 and Hades satellites, has informed us of a delay in the scheduled one for January 14, 2021 with SpaceX.
"This delay has nothing to do with our satellites, or with Alba Orbital itself. It is attributable to Momentus, which acts as an integrator with SpaceX."
"The delay means the next try would probably go to March, coinciding with the Starlink mission and being located in an estimated orbit between 450 and 550 km with an inclination of 53 degrees."
"As for the satellites themselves, this should not be a major setback. AMSAT-EA does does not expect a significant drain on the batteries."

(ANS thanks Felix Paez, EA4GQS of AMSAT EA for the above information)

+ Roy Dean, K3RLD commented on LilacSat-2 operations: "Just a reminder for those who may not know, LilacSat-2 frequently turns on with a downlink about 12 kHz higher than it's published value. It seems to "jump around" sometimes between the two frequencies. Here is a good illustration of the the recently completed 21:55z pass:"

https://network.satnogs.org/observations/3416149/

Roy continues: "It was just me and KC1OCA on this pass, but I don't think Michael could hear me. The downlink was very strong, so I suspect he was using a radio with no waterfall - which would make it difficult to know that you are getting in.

If anybody knows KC1OCA - please let him know that I have a recording of the pass if he would like (no email on qrz.com). Thanks!"

(ANS thanks Roy Dean, K3RLD for the above information)

+ Rocket Lab announces "Another One Leaves The Crust" launch window: The mission will launch a single communication microsatellite for OHB Group that will enable specific frequencies to support future services from orbit. The launch will be Rocket Lab’s 18th Electron mission and was procured for OHB Group through OHB Cosmos International Launch Service GmbH, the launch service division of OHB Group. OHB Cosmos is responsible for launching the spacecraft built by the Group's satellite manufacturers based in Germany, Sweden, and Czech Republic. The mission will launch from Rocket Lab Launch Complex 1 on New Zealand’s Māhia Peninsula

(ANS thanks Terry Osborne, ZL2BAC of RocketLab for the above information)

+ A Japanese company and Kyoto University have joined forces to develop what

they hope will be the world's first satellites made out of wood by 2023. Sumitomo Forestry said it has started research on tree growth and the use of wood materials in space. The partnership will begin experimenting with different types of wood in extreme environments on Earth. Space junk is becoming an increasing problem as more satellites are launched into the atmosphere. Wooden satellites would burn up without releasing harmful substances into the atmosphere or raining debris on the ground when they plunge back to Earth.
(ANS thanks BBC News for the above information)

+ Want to add a bit of space to your Google Calendar? CNET has launched the SPACE CALENDAR (all caps for dramatic cosmic effect), covering all the big rocket launches, mesmerizing meteor showers, epic eclipses and even an assortment of scientific milestones. The Google Calendar is constantly updating, and can be added to your existing Google app at https://bit.ly/38lfWHC For other calendars, such as Outlook, a static computer file of dates as they are presently scheduled can be downloaded at https://bit.ly/3hQm6T2

(ANS thanks CNET.com for the above information)

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In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership in the President's Club. Members of the President's Club, as sustaining donors to AMSAT Project Funds, will be eligible to receive additional benefits. Application forms are available from the AMSAT Store.

Primary and secondary school students are eligible for membership at one-half the standard yearly rate. Post-secondary school students enrolled in at least half time status shall be eligible for the student rate for a maximum of 6 post-secondary years in this status. Contact AMSAT for additional student membership information at info at amsat dot org.

73 and Remember to help keep amateur radio in space,
This week's ANS Editor, Jack Spitznagel, KD4IZ
kd4iz at frawg dot org